(c) what are the details of the proposed gas import from West Asia; and

(d) what would be the burden of its import on the country's Balance of Payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) While the registered demand for gas with the Gas Authority of India Limited is over 260 MMSCMD, the maximum projected indigenous availability of gas, including the gas that is currently being flared, is approximately 85 MMSCMD. The proposal to import natural gas is being considered to bridge the gap between the projected availability and the large demand.

(c) and (d) The proposal is only at a conceptual stage.

Retendering of Bhatinda-Kandla Pipeline

360. SHRI P. UPENDRA:
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new tenders have been called for laying of the Bhatinda-Kandla Pipeline;

(b) whether retendering has been done to help a particular foreign company; and

(c) what are the reasons for the retendering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) No retendering for laying of the Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline has been resorted to.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and Import of petroleum products

361. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of crude oil in the country during the current year;

(b) the estimated import of crude and petroleum products diesel and kerosene in the current year, stating figures separately in each case;

(c) whether the oil import bill will be higher this year as compared to last year; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The target of indigenous production of crude oil during the year 1993-94 is 27.17 million tonnes.

(b) Government have approved the import of 28.900 MMT of crude oil and 15.137 MMT of petroleum products during the year 1993-94.

(c) and (d) The total value of these imports will depend upon the actual imports and the price prevalent in the international market.

Pending application for allotment of LPG agencies

362. DR. RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI':
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications pending for allotment of L.P.G. Gas Agencies throughout the country;

(b) what are the details of applications pending with the Government from Gujarat and Bihar States; and

(c) by when these applications will be cleared off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Applications are being in-